



1

00:00:00,669 --> 00:00:04,190

“Here’s some of the stories trending This Week at NASA!”

2

00:00:04,190 --> 00:00:09,910

“And liftoff of the Falcon 9 rocket with Jason-3.”

3

00:00:09,910 --> 00:00:16,250

On Jan. 17, Jason-3, a U.S.-European oceanography satellite mission launched from California’s

4

00:00:16,250 --> 00:00:20,570

Vandenberg Air Force Base aboard a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket.

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00:00:20,570 --> 00:00:24,740

The mission is led by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in partnership

6

00:00:24,740 --> 00:00:30,630

with NASA, the French space agency, CNES, and the European Organisation for the Exploitation

7

00:00:30,630 --> 00:00:32,969

of Meteorological Satellites.

8

00:00:32,969 --> 00:00:37,920

After a six-month checkout period, Jason-3 will start full science operations – continuing

9

00:00:37,920 --> 00:00:43,190

a nearly quarter-century record of tracking global sea level rise, direction of ocean

10

00:00:43,190 --> 00:00:48,850

currents and amount of solar energy stored by oceans – all, key data to understanding

11

00:00:48,850 --> 00:00:54,639

changes in global climate and more accurately forecasting severe weather.

12

00:00:54,639 --> 00:00:59,829

According to data released by NASA and NOAA on Jan. 20, the surface temperature of our

13

00:00:59,829 --> 00:01:03,940

planet hit a record high – for the second year in a row.

14

00:01:03,940 --> 00:01:09,010

Global temperatures for 2015 shattered the previous mark set in 2014 by 0.23 (twenty-three

15

00:01:09,010 --> 00:01:14,320

hundredths) degrees Fahrenheit – the second-largest increase for a new record year.

16

00:01:14,320 --> 00:01:21,579

Our planet's average surface temperature has risen about 1.8 °F since the late 19th-century.

17

00:01:21,579 --> 00:01:26,280

Increases in carbon dioxide and other human-produced emissions are believed to be contributing

18

00:01:26,280 --> 00:01:29,960

to the rise in global temperatures.

19

00:01:29,960 --> 00:01:34,999

Jan. 19 marked the 10-year anniversary of the launch of NASA's New Horizons mission

20

00:01:34,999 --> 00:01:35,999

to Pluto.

21

00:01:35,999 --> 00:01:40,899

The spacecraft reached Pluto last year – making

its closest approach to the distant dwarf

22

00:01:40,899 --> 00:01:43,289

planet on July 14.

23

00:01:43,289 --> 00:01:47,810

Reconnaissance of the Pluto system and the Kuiper Belt is giving us unprecedented insight

24

00:01:47,810 --> 00:01:51,490

into the makeup of worlds at the edge of our solar system.

25

00:01:51,490 --> 00:01:57,170

The imagery returned by New Horizons has included many unexpected features on Pluto – including

26

00:01:57,170 --> 00:02:01,889

a recently released view of what might be the largest ice volcano discovered in the

27

00:02:01,889 --> 00:02:04,990

outer solar system.

28

00:02:04,990 --> 00:02:09,390

One of the reasons Earth images seen from space turn out to be some of the coolest things

29

00:02:09,390 --> 00:02:14,349

we've ever seen sometimes, is because of what we see when we look a little harder.

30

00:02:14,349 --> 00:02:18,989

Case in point – these images on NASA's Earth Observatory site that are part of an

31

00:02:18,989 --> 00:02:21,569

ABCs from space feature.

32

00:02:21,569 --> 00:02:25,510

All twenty-six letters of the English alphabet are represented.

33

00:02:25,510 --> 00:02:31,430

The Earth Observatory site is managed at the agency's Goddard Space Flight Center.

34

00:02:31,430 --> 00:02:33,480

And that's what's up this week @NASA ...